

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 174328

NODIS

FOR JOSEPH S NYE

FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS 21843 ACTION STATE INFO KABUL ISLAMABAD
NEW DELHI TEHRAN JULY 11.

QUOTE E C R E T PARIS 21843

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

PASS NEWSOM

E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MNUC PK FR US

SUBJ: PAKISTAN REPROCESSING AND NEWSOM VISIT
TO ISLAMABAD

REF: (A) THERAN 6529; (B) ISLAMABAD 6614 C. STATE 174021

1. UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM'S REVISED APPROACH
CONTAINED REF A MAKES GOOD SENSE TO US, GIVEN THE CHANGE
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IN JACOMET'S SCHEDULE. IT IS A MUCH MORE DIFFICULT
TASK THAN PATCHING TOGETHER THE PIECES AFTER THE FRENCH
SAY THEY ARE PULLING OUT. IF YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL, THE
FRENCH LOSE NOTHING, INCLUDING THEIR "REPUTATION" AS
RELIABLE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS.

2. FROM THE NON-PROLIFERATION VIEWPOINT (AND THE SPIRIT

OF THE GLENN AMENDMENT), PAKISTAN'S INITIATIVE TO SUSPEND (INDEFINITELY POSTPONE) WORK ON THE REPROCESSING PLANT IS THE BEST SOLUTION; PERHAPS THE ONLY SOLUTION FOR LONGTERM COMPLIANCE WITH THE GLENN AMENDMENT.

3. RE PARA 2, POINT C OF REF A, US WOULD NOT NEED TO ENCOURAGE SYMPATHETIC FRENCH ACCEPTANCE AS GISCARD HAS PUBLICLY SAID HE WOULD NOT BE SOURCE OF NUCLEAR BOMB CAPABILITY FOR PAKISTAN AND FRENCH MFA HAS SAID TALKS WERE UNDERWAY WITH GOP ON ENHANCED SAFEGUARDS ASPECTS OF THE REPROCESSING FACILITY. YOU COULD SAY THAT THE US WOULD BE PREPARED TO ENCOURAGE THE FRENCH TO STOP WORK ON THE CONTRACT WITHOUT ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL PENALTY TO THE GOP.

4. AMBASSADOR HUMMEL'S PROPOSAL TO CONSIDER RETURNING TO ISLAMABAD AFTER SAUDI ARABIA (OFFERING THIS TO THE GOP AFTER WE LEARN THE RESULTS OF THE JACOMET VISIT) ALSO MAKES SENSE. IT WOULD REINFORCE OUR CONTINGENT OFFER OF ASSISTANCE AND, HOPEFULLY, FIRM UP GOP AGREEMENT THAT WORK ON THE REPROCESSING PLANT WOULD STOP. WE DO NOT BELIEVE A DELAY IN YOUR VISIT TO PARIS WOULD CAUSE ANY SERIOUS PROBLEMS HERE.

5. ABOVE DRAFTED PRIOR RECEIPT REFTEL C. RE REF C, WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT AT THE JUNE 15 MEETING OF THE FRENCH INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON
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NUCLEAR EXPORT POLICY, PRESIDENT GISCARD AND HIS MINISTERS MADE THE DECISION TO MAKE ONE LAST ATTEMPT TO ENCOURAGE THE GOP TO WITHDRAW FROM FURTHER WORK AND, FAILING THAT, TO TELL THE GOP THAT FRANCE WOULD WITHDRAW FROM FURTHER WORK UNDER THE CONTRACT. THIS DECISION WAS CONVEYED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO SECRETARY VANCE DURING THEIR MEETING IN PARIS THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 15. OUR ALMOST DAILY CONTACTS WITH JACOMET FURTHER SUPPORT OUR FEELING THAT THE FRENCH HAVE MADE THE DECISION TO CANCEL. WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH JACOMET AND REPORT TO YOU. HARTMAN

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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